

REMARKS

As an initial matter, the applicants thank the examiner for his time in discussing the present claims with the Applicant on July 7, 2005. This response is accompanied by a Request for Continued Examination and requisite fee. By way of this response, claims 1-69 have been cancelled without prejudice, and claims 70-91 have been newly added, with claims 70, 76, 82, and 87 being independent. Thus, claims 70-91 are currently pending and at issue. The new claims are presented to clarify that the storing and retrieval of digital video data includes a plurality of multiplexers. No new matter has been added by the new claims because the claim recitations are fully supported by the specification and drawings as originally filed, including for example by FIGS. 4-6.

In the outstanding Office action, the examiner maintained the rejection of the claims 1, 5-9, 12, 17-20, 33, 37-42, 44, 48-51, 54-57, 59-63, and 69 as unpatentable over Tsukamoto et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,796,828), in view of Yim (U.S. Pat. No. 6,810,387). While the applicants submit that Yim utilizes a broadcasted key and does not disclose the altering of bits in selected bit positions as previously claimed, for the sake of furthering the prosecution of this application, the applicants have elected to cancel the outstanding claims without prejudice, and add claims 70-91 directed to the use of a plurality of multiplexers to invert and/or scramble a bit pattern.

In particular, Claims 70 and 82 are directed to a method and apparatus for inverting specific data bits in a bit pattern utilizing a plurality of multiplexers. Specifically, claim 70 recites, *inter alia*, an apparatus for storing and receiving digital video data including a “plurality of multiplexers each configured to receive an associated one of the plurality of data bits in the data bit pattern and its inverse, and configured to output one of the associated one of the plurality data bits or its inverse according to a preprogrammed bit altering scheme, the output of each of the plurality of multiplexers being combined to form an altered data bit

pattern.” Additionally, claims 76 and 87 are directed to a method and apparatus for scrambling specific data bits in bit pattern utilizing a plurality of multiplexers. For example, Claim 76 recites, inter alia, an apparatus for storing and receiving digital video data including a “plurality of multiplexers, each configured to receive each of the plurality of data bits in the data bit pattern and to select a unique one of the data bits according to a preprogrammed bit scrambling scheme, the output of each of the plurality of multiplexers being combined to form a scrambled data bit pattern.”

None of the cited references, whether taken alone or in combination, teaches or suggests such methods or apparatus. Rather, while Tsukamoto generally discloses a satellite television broadcasting system that stores and retrieves data signals, there is no teaching or suggesting of altering a bit pattern by inverting and/or scrambling bits with a plurality of multiplexers. Similarly, while Yim generally discloses the reception of a broadcasted encryption key and the encryption of that key based upon a product serial number to produce a new encryption key, used to encrypt the transmitted data, Yim does not teach or suggest the altering of a bit pattern by inverting and/or scrambling utilizing a plurality of multiplexers.

Accordingly, because none of the cited references either alone, or in combination teaches or suggests altering a bit pattern of data bits by inverting and/or scrambling bits by a plurality of multiplexers, it follows that no combination of these references can render any of the pending claims obvious. Therefore, each of the pending claims is allowable over the cited art.

Conclusion

For at least these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. If, for any reason, the examiner is unable to allow the application in the next Office action, the examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

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Response to the Office Action of April 29, 2005

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the amount enclosed or any additional fees which may be required during the pendency of this application under 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 50-0383.

Respectfully submitted,



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